

OLYMPIC MANAGER BREAKS SILENCE TO REFUTE CHARGES

Halpin Comes Out With Arraignment Of Gotham Critics

Caustic Comment on Conduct of Olympian Athletes—Flays Accusers, Claiming That They Acted Under Pressure.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Smarting under the continued flailing of members of the American team which he managed on last year's trip to the Athens Olympic games, Matt Halpin has broken his period of silence.

Last night at the New York Athletic Club Halpin gave out a long statement in defense of his position:

"Realizing that I have been placed in a false position by my recent determination not to publicly defend myself against the criticisms of members of the Irish-American A. C., and others, with reference to the late trip of the American athletes to the Olympic games in Athens, I have reconsidered to the end of the subjoined statement:

Not Responsible for Arrangements.

"I have been held accountable for all the work of the American Olympic committee of that time, who made all the arrangements for the trip long before I was appointed to the position of manager of the American team. I make this statement in order that the responsibility for the steamship line, hotel accommodations, and all side issues of the foreign trip may be placed where they belong, namely with the American committee.

"I was simply concerned with the incidental arrangements and the physical condition of the men. With special reference to the hotel arrangements at Athens, we were provided with quarters in the Zappion, this place being set aside by the Crown Prince of Greece for athletes from all over the world. This hospitality, represented by quarters and accommodations in the Zappion, was gratefully accepted by the Oxford and Cambridge men, who readily accepted the quarters in the Zappion vacated by the disgruntled members of the American team.

Result of Club Rivalry.

"I have insisted that the persistent attacks being made upon me were not caused by my treatment of certain of the American athletes on the trip to Athens.

"The motive for the bitter and venomous attacks is understood by every athlete club member in the Metropolitan Association to be the continuance of the bitter quarrel for athletic supremacy in the Metropolitan Association between the New York Athletic Club and the Irish-American Athletic Club, and made more bitter by my protesting of Martin

PROBABLE CHANGES IN GRAND CIRCUIT

Cleveland and Detroit May Not Enter—Prospective Places.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The stewards of the Grand Circuit will meet in New York city on January 13 to determine on the tracks that shall be included in the big chain of meetings for the light-harness horse during the season of 1908.

It is practically assured that the Cleveland Driving Park Company will not give a meeting next season, and unless some other Cleveland club comes to the front there will be no Grand Circuit meeting at the Forest City.

Detroit is also somewhat in doubt, for the reason that Daniel J. Campau, the man who has managed the big trotting meetings there for many years, announces that he positively will not be identified with the sport next season. This will mean a change of tracks even though a meeting is given.

No Death of Tracks.

Kalamazoo, Libertyville, and Lima are three applicants for places, so there is no question about the strength of the Grand Circuit in case Cleveland and Detroit do both drop out. The Libertyville meeting preceded the opening of the Grand Circuit last year, and many horses that started at Detroit were given their first races at Libertyville. It was there that Highball made his record of 2:05 in his first start, beating Sonoma Glen, and it was also there that the great gelding met his first defeat, losing to the speedy California mare in a second race over the same track the following week.

Kalamazoo was hot for a place in the Grand Circuit last year, and would gladly accept dates ahead of Detroit in case the latter holds onto the week usually assigned for the Blue Ribbon meeting. Libertyville would naturally come in ahead of Kalamazoo, and Lima, if admitted, would have to take the place usually assigned Cleveland.

Buffalo Circuit Intact.

From Buffalo the circuit will very likely be about the same as last year—Poughkeepsie, Readville, Providence, Hartford, Syracuse, and Columbus, the latter with a two weeks' meeting.

There should be a chance for Philadelphia to get into the circuit, taking one of the weeks given Columbus, but so far no one has come to the front with the necessary amount of backing. It is believed that a first-class trotting and pacing meeting conducted on up-to-date lines would prove a winner, either at the Quaker mile tracks, particularly at Point Breeze, because of the good transportation facilities, but there would, of course, be some risks.

SHEPPARD AND HASKINS AGAIN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Melvin W. Sheppard, of the Irish-American A. C., and Guy Haskins, of the University of Pennsylvania, acknowledged to be the greatest middle-distance runners in the country, have been matched to run a 1,000-yard race at the Boston Athletic Association's carnival on February 1.

J. Sheridan, of the Irish-American Athletic Club, for professionalism a short time prior to the trip to Athens. Furthermore, my activity in quest of evidence, which will undoubtedly result in the cleaning up of the semi-professional element in the Metropolitan Association, is not relished by the Irish-American Athletic Club.

Personal Charges.

Mr. Halpin then goes on to score each of the men who have attacked him in the present controversy. He says a certain sporting editor of a New York paper, who had previously taken his side of the argument, is now attacking him under the pressure of an editor connected with the Irish-American Athletic Club. He says Ray C. Ewry's animosity is due to the fact that he had called Ewry a grafting amateur for giving exhibitions at circuses. Halpin is surprised at Hillman for opposing him. "Hillman probably fancies that I caused his suspension from the New York Athletic Club for owing him dues," said Halpin.

Speaking of Leavitt and Eaton, the Boston athletes, Halpin expresses his belief that Leavitt dislikes him for getting him out of trouble with the Naples police. "He probably has forgotten the furniture he smashed in the Hotel di Napoli and the people he insulted," says Halpin. Halpin thinks Eaton's grudge is due to the latter's failure to get a loan of some \$10,000 from Halpin finally loaned Eaton a little of his own, which he has only partially paid back.

Anent the Sullivan Case.

Regarding D. A. Sullivan, of Butte, Mont., Halpin says this man intended to "do" England as a professional at the conclusion of the Olympic games, and for this reason he tried to get Sullivan's registration card and his Olympic uniform. Prince George of Greece was compelled to declare this man unfit to associate with the other American athletes, according to Halpin's statement.

Halpin also accuses the Irish-American A. C. athletes of stealing the congratulatory telegram to the American team, sent by President Roosevelt. The telegram disappeared at a banquet after the games. Halpin does not name the men he suspects.

Halpin calls attention to the fact that his management of the trip has been criticized by the college element.

SUMMER BALL INDORSED BY DAVE FULTZ

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—In view of the determined attempt that is to be made by the Intercollegiate Athletic Association to eradicate, or at least modify the playing of "summer baseball" by college students, the ideas of Dave Fultz, former center fielder of the Philadelphia Athletics, now a practicing lawyer and a lecturer in the religious field, are interesting.

Fultz's views follow: "I see no reason why the bona fide college student of good standing, good moral character, who engages in athletics for money during the summer months as a means of obtaining his education, should not represent his college. Our students sing in churches, or in summer opera companies and then return to college and sing on our glee clubs; the writer may contribute to newspapers, magazines, and still write for our college publications. He of much wisdom may coach the delinquent student, and still represent our debating club. All this is done for money, but the ethical status is never questioned.

"We are prone to view this question from but one standpoint. In many cases the man who has not taken money simply for money's sake, but because he is in need of it, and then they say, 'Oh, there is nothing wrong in a man's playing for money, only he should not afterward play on college teams.' Why not, if he has done no wrong? Are two rights ever repugnant in principle?"

During his days as a student at Brown University, Fultz was one of the best ball players in the college ranks.

TRENTON STILL OUT FOR EASTERN LEAGUE

TRENTON, Dec. 30.—Although Manager Carney gave up hope of seeing Trenton in the Eastern League some time ago, Lewis Perrine, president of the local club, is still confident that his team will not open in the tri-state, but will begin as a member of Pat Powers' league. Perrine expects the national commission to take some action on the case of Montreal at its meeting in Cleveland on January 6.

It is the consensus of opinion here that the tri-state League will not part out this season with the reduced salary limit, and the fans are clamoring for an Eastern League outfit. Under present rules Trenton cannot become a member of the Eastern League, but Perrine expects that rules will be made whereby Trenton can leave the tri-state and take Montreal's place without disrupting the former outfit organization.

Meanwhile Manager Carney is going ahead signing players.

KNOX'S LITTLE JOKE.

One day last spring Senator Knox was walking through a corridor of the Capitol, when he was joined by a former member of the Senate, Mr. Chandler of New Hampshire.

As the two drew near the entrance to the chamber, Mr. Knox motioned to his companion to pass in first.

"After you," said Mr. Chandler, with a polite bow, drawing back.

"Not at all," protested Mr. Knox; "the X's always go before the wise, you know."—Exchange.

LEAVITT PREPARES WITH SAD STORY

Lost Buffalo Hotel, Then Took Long Trip.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

One of the most delightful and charming visitors of our fair city in the past week was Ristie Leonard, who departed our midst about eighteen months ago to run a hotel in Buffalo, N. Y.

At present this esteemed citizen has no hotel, but a long, sad story. The tale of his wrongs sounds like a Boston discussion of the treatment of the Philippines, and he can recite more horrors than a child-culture female telling our mothers they don't know how to raise us. According to Leonard's plaint pretty much everybody he had dealings with in Buffalo, with a few notable exceptions, acted as if they were Jack O'Briens in disgust. Instead of reaching him the glad hand they extended hooks and dragged him in, after which they summoned the hammer clans and beat out of him everything that wasn't nailed down and most that was.

Quit in Disgust.

Having taken his hotel from him one day when he happened to stray away to a ball game the Buffalunians hired a dentist to extract the gold from his front teeth. Discovering this nefarious plot Ristie decided to flee from Buffalo. He took a tour of the country which extended as far north as Seattle, and as far south as Los Angeles, returning to Washington by way of the Southern Pacific.

While in Los Angeles the Capital wafar dropped into Jim Jeffries' saloon and had a short talk with the champion, but did not ask him whether he intended to fight again. Kind-faced strangers advised Leonard that the question always vexed Jeff so much that he became quite irascible, wherefore, being a man of peace, the Washingtonian avoided that subject. Speaking of his travels, Leonard said:

Visit to Jim Jeffries.

"Jeffries' place is certainly a beauty, as far as fixings are concerned. It's all there with the mahogany trimmings, mosaic floors, and leather furniture, while the gentlemanly barkeeper serves the stuff to cut glass, but, judging from the business going on while I was there, Jeff is not making more than a million dollars a minute. His rent is high, and the amount of money invested in the place is large, and I should imagine he would have to have a constant trade like a market saloon on Saturday night. I got by the day I visited him, and he was very kind and courteous to his customers. I had known him here in East and he had quite a talk, but I did not ask him if he intended entering the ring again, for the first question he asked me was whether I was a newcomer to the sport, and I told him I was, and it is wearing him out.

Depression in West.

"Business conditions in the Northwest and West are in a deplorable state. There are thousands of idle men in Seattle, and all business done along the coast is through the medium of clearing house certificates, which pass dollar for dollar in the West, but have to be discounted if you want to go elsewhere. People in Washington, where the government is paying off in cash regularly at the old stand, have no complaints, but in the matter of thousands of others. The number of men out of work who cannot even find manual labor to do in the West is appalling, and I was glad to get back here.

Intended to settle in Seattle, but the scarcity of jobs there, and the general depression caused me to change my mind.

Southern Saloons Doomed.

"The strength of the temperance movement in the South is enormous, and the saloonkeepers in the comparatively few towns where whisky is now sold openly see the handwriting on the wall. Only the only city in Alabama where whisky will be sold is Mobile, and the first of the year, and the whisky men there told me they did not expect to stay in business more than another year.

Leonard will look around, and after he has caught his breath expects to settle in Washington again.

MAN AND HIS WAYS.

"Actors travel so much on their nerve nowadays, it makes 'em think they're nervous," said the old carpenter. "Why, I was with a show that had to delay opening two weeks because the star discovered a fancy interior done in blue and gold. He said blue got on his nerves; so we lost time while the scene was painted over. Same way with another woman star. She wouldn't work because a parlor set had panels decorated with peacocks. Said she was pecked on by a peacock, and even pictures of 'em scared her."

"But you can bet that's done mostly for advertising. They do their acting for the press agents, and the more hot air is blown about 'em in the newspapers, the better actors they think they are."

"Used to be actors had to produce the goods—and do it on real acting, too. They could act and talk so as to make the audience think it was a real moonlight night, for instance, without a lot of electrical stuff to help 'em out. There stages more like the use of in. They may be added to the use of in. And this though no special effort may have been made along these lines by those in charge of the sports. The class of men who go in for athletics and excel in such contests are the most desirable soldiers and the best all-around men. Still another advantage of athletics is that it keeps the champion teams draw good recruits and soldiers to enlist there—Army and Navy Life.

"Most of 'em ain't got the backbone to 'good actors,' and the old man can figure any of these dude society stars pulling off fierce sword fights and struggles like McCullough or Forrest. No, sir; they ain't physically able. And that's what makes us sick when we have to stand in the wings and listen to them fool around. I'm just thinking what wonderful heroes they are."—Harper's Weekly.

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Back Among the Old Folk



RISTIE LEONARD, Washington Sporting Man Who Had His Troubles in Buffalo.

AMERICAN CRICKET TEAM TO GO ABROAD

Fifteen Matches Booked. Thirteen in England. Two in Ireland.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—After a lapse of five years the cricketers of Philadelphia will send a team to England, next season.

Although the team has not yet been chosen, all those whose selection is assured have been approached and have signified their willingness to go. Should the trip not have been undertaken in 1908 it could not have taken place until 1911, for the Australians will be in England in 1908 and the South Africans are down for a trip in 1910.

The schedule of games for the Philadelphia team was drawn up at the last meeting of the county secretaries, held in London on December 9. It embraces fifteen matches, of which thirteen will take place in England and two in Ireland. The opening match will be played on July 6, and the concluding contest on August 27. Following is the schedule:

The Schedule.

July 6, South Wales, at Cardiff; 9, Worcestershire, at Worcester; 12, Hampshire, at Southampton; 17, Gloucestershire, at Gloucester; 21, Middlesex, at Lord's, London; 24, Royal Artillery, at Woolwich (two days); 27, Northamptonshire, at Northampton; 30, Surrey, at the Oval, London; August 3, Gentlemen of Ireland, at Dublin; 7, Northern Counties Union, at Belfast (two days); 13, Marylebone C. C., at Lord's, London; 17, Derbyshire, at Derby; 20, Nottingham, at Nottingham; 24, Durham County, at Durham; 27, Kent, at Canterbury.

Unless otherwise stated, all games are for three days.

IMPORTANT IF TRUE.

The annual profits of Monte Carlo amount of \$5,000,000.

France makes \$80,000,000 from its tobacco crop. Smoke up.

India is no place for S. Veller, Jr. There are 25,000,000 widows there.

In New York city 35 per cent of the male population wear beards. Next!

Only one person in a thousand lives to be 100 years old. Not that it matters to us.

In three tailed bananas there is as much nourishment as in twenty-six pounds of bread.

If the wind is right a fox can scent a man a quarter of a mile. A skunk can do it at two feet.

The average size of the English family is four and one-half persons. Some of the halves come over here and marry.

"If you walk through all the rooms of the Spanish royal palace it means a 12-mile trip, and would take six days unless Weston did it."

Pittsburg is the only city in the country which charges toll across its bridges. It pays thirty-eight times more than Chicago for the maintenance of those structures.

MORALITY AND ATHLETICS.

Aside from its physical effect, the moral effect of athletics, in the case of the soldier, at least, is of no small value. My experience has been that men are less likely to drink in the football or baseball season, even though they may be added to the use of in. And this though no special effort may have been made along these lines by those in charge of the sports. The class of men who go in for athletics and excel in such contests are the most desirable soldiers and the best all-around men. Still another advantage of athletics is that it keeps the champion teams draw good recruits and soldiers to enlist there—Army and Navy Life.

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CONFERENCE MAKES WAR SEEN LIKELY

National Commission Consents to Talk it Over With A. A.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—The proposed invasion of the Chicago baseball field by the American Association will be taken up at Cincinnati January 6 between President O'Brien, of the American Association, and the National Commission. Mr. O'Brien, at the annual meeting of the American Association, was appointed a committee of one to take up the question of territorial rights with the National Commission. The presidents of all clubs in the association were present.

Other business accomplished was the election of George T. ... of Kansas City, as chairman of the board of directors, and of M. C. Cantillon, of Minneapolis, as vice president of the organization. A schedule committee, composed of Tebeau and Cantillon and President Bryce, of Columbus, was chosen to draw up a schedule of 154 games for 1908. The 1907 pennant was formally awarded to Columbus.

Leaders at Sea.

Baseball leaders are at a loss to interpret the action of the association regarding the invasion of Chicago. President Ban Johnson, of the American League, who is a member of the national commission, asserted that the national body had no jurisdiction over the question, and had already refused to act in a similar case, wherein the Western League attempted to take Topeka from the Western Association.

C. A. Comiskey and C. W. Murphy, presidents of the American and National League clubs, of Chicago, refused to discuss the situation.

The American Association club owners themselves referred all inquiries to President O'Brien. The latter was silent when asked what the association expected to gain by an appeal to a body which had no jurisdiction over the question.

To Gain Time.

By outsiders, however, the action taken was interpreted as an attempt to gain time, the time being considered scarcely ripe for so radical a move as invading the territory of the major leagues, in the face of almost certain opposition.

The fact that no considerable time was devoted to the discussion of the question in yesterday's meeting is taken to mean that the American Association leaders are almost a unit on the desirability of having a club in Chicago. It was the American Association, however, which has the most to lose by starting a "baseball war" are first exhausted.

MIDNIGHT PAGEANT AT MADISON SQUARE

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Plans for a surprise carnival in Madison Square Garden on New Year eve were partly disclosed at the Importers' Automobile Salon on Saturday night.

This carnival is to be both festive and spectacular, including a midnight supper in the galleries and a noval pageant on the main floor of the amphitheater. The carnival will be an effort to present to the spectators the development of locomotion from its primitive, pre-Adamite stage to its present condition. The parade will be led by a band and the first stage of locomotion will be illustrated by—according to Darwin—of our ancestors, a monkey, on all fours. Next will come a man "walking on his hind legs." Following him will be the next development, the oxen.

After this will follow in order, Hindoos carrying a palanquin on their shoulders, Japanese using a Jhirikisha, Egyptians, Romans, and Greeks in chariots drawn by horses, Medes and Persians in chariots drawn by camels, and the European sedan chair, donkeys and horses and carriages. The age of steam is to be represented by an engine, followed by bicycles.

PRINCETON HALFBACK MAY ENTER VIRGINIA

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., Dec. 30.—Harlan, the great drop-kicking halfback of the Princeton team of '07, who leaves that institution in June, may enter the University of Virginia next fall to study law.

Should he do this his presence on the football squad would materially strengthen the Orange and Blue, even though eligibility rules would bar his participating in the games of 1908.

Harlan is a basketball player, and his decision to enter the University of Virginia would help Virginia athletics immensely.

NOT SAME DEXTER.

Sporting Editor Times:

Allow me to correct an error in your columns headed "Diamond Chips" in The Times of Saturday. The Charley Dexter slated to manage Augusta in 1908 is not Dexter, the former Louisville player. In fact, his name is not Dexter, at all, but he is a Cincinnati product with a true Cincinnati name which I fail to call to mind and could not spell it even if I could pronounce it. He was tried out by Atlanta in the spring of 1904 or 1905, both at first base and in the outfield, and has since played in the South Atlantic League, where he was manager for Columbia a part of one season.

Very respectfully yours,

F. C. BARKER.

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KELLY ON LONG END OF BETTING

Wagering Expected to Pick Up at Ringside—Price, 10 to 9.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 30.—Billy Papke and Hugo Kelly, who fight ten rounds at Schlitz's Garden tonight for the middleweight championship of the world, are both in the best of condition and both extremely confident of winning by a knockout long before the final round.

Papke feels certain that he will win with a knockout, while Kelly, though not talking knockout as strongly as the down State man, is certain that he will be the winner when the contest is finished. This confidence is born of perfect physical condition, the result of weeks of earnest and faithful training. Since the match was made both men have applied themselves diligently to bringing about that fine edge that is necessary to make a fighter without flaw and both have declared that there is nothing lacking in this regard.

Big Crowd Expected.

That the greatest crowd that ever saw a contest in Milwaukee will be present when the two middleweights spar for the opening seems certain. A big delegation will arrive on a special train which leaves Chicago over the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul road at 6 o'clock tonight, and other fans will be streaming into the city all day from different points of the country.

The winner will be entitled to one of the best claimed prizes in the sport, a championship, though Stanley Ketchel, Tommy Ryan, and Sam Langford will dispute it.

Betting Light So Far.

Although there has not been a great deal of betting so far, it is certain that the wagering will pick up and become very brisk at the ringside. The center of the ring is likely that the price will be 10 to 9, with Kelly on the long end.

Papke looks fresh as a flower and is as hard as iron. If condition counts for anything in this battle, Billy has much in his favor.

PENN QUINT OFF FOR TRIP TODAY

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—Penn's basketball team will leave for a holiday trip this morning, playing four games before returning home.

Tonight the Red and Blue men will play the crack Johnstown A. C. team at Johnstown, Pa. Tomorrow the Western University of Pennsylvania will be met at Pittsburgh. January 1 the Detroit A. C. at Detroit, and January 2 the Columbus Y. M. C. A. team at Columbus, Ohio.

Manager Johnston is also still trying to arrange games with the Nashville Y. M. C. A. team, of Nashville, Tenn., and the South Side team, of Pittsburgh. The team will make the trip—Captain Fitzpatrick, Keinhart, Kleiber, McCrudden, Sommer, McNicol, and Sperry. Manager Johnston and Coach Smith are in charge of the party.

NO ARABIAN EYESHADOWS.

"I shall winter in the Sahara," said a traveling man. "With a caravan I shall traverse, under a blinding sun, an endless plain of snow white sand, but none of my Mohammedan attendants will wear any kind of shade over his eyes."

"Against that dazzling glare the backs of their necks will be swathed in white linen, and even their ears will be protected. Nothing, though, will keep the sun out of their faces."

"Wondering about this I said one day to the said of an Algerian village."

"Why don't you Arabs wear a cap of some sort? You live in the world's worst sun glare, but neither fez nor turban under any circumstances has a peak."

"The koran," the said answered, "forbids all true believers to shade their eyes. Obeying the koran implicitly, we dwellers in the desert avoid like poison any brims to our headgear. In consequence there is more blindness among us than among any other people in the world."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Fine Cutlery

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